



ALBERTA  
HUMAN SERVICES

*Office of the Minister*

AR 59400

January 5, 2017

**Letter from the Minister of Human Services to Albertans receiving Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) supports**

Hello,

I hope you are doing well.

PDD has been doing some work that I want to make sure you know about.

PDD has always had contracts with agencies that provide support to you. Contracts help PDD and agencies know what services will be provided and how much money will be provided by PDD for services.

In the last year, PDD has been working with agencies to update the way agencies get contracts. PDD has also been working with agencies to update the wording in its contracts.

As Minister, I want to let you know that I do not want any of this work to interfere with the supports you get from your agency. I want you to continue to get the services you need from the agency you choose, just as you always have.

Since I started my job, I have learned that people with disabilities have important things to tell me, and I should listen to them. The disability community told me that the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) and the Safety Standards needed to stop. This was important for me to hear and helped me decide to stop both of those things.

I want to let you know that I will continue to listen to you and that PDD will listen to Self-Advocates. People who took part in the PDD Safety Standards consultation told us that the need to listen is important. I will look at all of the recommendations from the consultation to see how we can help people to be safe and be included in their community.

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Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I will write back again with other news when we have more information to share. If you have any questions, please email [HS.CAP@gov.ab.ca](mailto:HS.CAP@gov.ab.ca) and one of my staff will be happy to respond to you.

On behalf of Premier Rachel Notley and our government, thank you for making Alberta a great place to live.

Sincerely,



Irfan Sabir  
Minister